

GROWTH + GROUPS

NAVIGATE LIFE TOGETHER

Maranatha Chapel Sermon Based Study Guide

SB 07.11.2021

ANCHORED BY HOPE – HEBREWS 6:19-20

Receiving the Message and Relating to the Study

What insights, principles, or observations stood out to you from this week's message? Discuss with your group.

In 1927 a US Submarine was patrolling off the Atlantic Coast and accidentally collided with a ship. In the accident, the submarine was severely damaged and quickly sank to the ocean floor about 100 feet beneath the surface. A rescue ship was immediately dispatched to the scene of the accident, but rough seas and a fierce storm delayed initial rescue attempts. When divers were finally able to go down, they heard tapping coming from inside the damaged vessel. The tapping turned out to be in Morse code. From the signals the divers learned that there were six men who survived the crash. The message they kept tapping out in Morse code was: 'Is there hope? Please hurry, please!' Is there hope? That's the question a lot of people seem to be asking these days. People everywhere are looking for something to put their hope in. Let's get into our study...

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion:

1. What struck you or stood out to you from this week's sermon in Acts 19?
2. Who is the "anchor" of your family? Who is the go-to person in hard times? Why that person?

A recent Wall Street Journal poll asked people if they believed 'Life for their children would be better than it has been for them.' Only 21% of those surveyed said they did. It's not hard to see why people feel that way. We live in turbulent times. Our world is marked by a slew of growing threats. Terrorism, racial tension, economic instability, a global pandemic, market volatility, nuclear proliferation, war. The list goes on and on. More and more things are starting to feel hopeless.

Digging Deeper in God's Word: Life Lessons

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ HEBREWS 6:18-20

The author of Hebrews wrote these words to Jewish believers in Jesus who were experiencing harsh persecution under a man named Caesar Nero. These people were losing their jobs, their homes, their businesses and in many cases, even their lives because of their faith in Jesus.

1. Pastor Daniel said 'Hope is to our emotional lives what air is to our lungs...' What does this phrase mean to you? explain
2. Pastor Daniel defined hope as "the confident expectation that what God has promised, He will do." What does this mean to you?
3. How does understanding God's character increase your hope?
4. What are some passages of scripture that boost your faith when times are tough?

According to Hebrews 6:19-20, the verse says that our hope is tied to this One who has 'gone before us and entered into the inner sanctuary behind the curtain.' (v. 19b) The author is talking about Jesus and His work on the cross. The curtain that the verse mentions is the curtain that separated the holy of holies from the holy place in the temple.

Visitation/Restoration in 2021

1. How is the hope that Christ gives described in this passage? (6:19)
2. Where is the believer's hope anchored? (6:19)
3. How was Christ able to "enter the inner sanctuary behind the curtain"? (6:19-20)
4. What did Christ do on our behalf? (6:20)

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1. What is the significance of the curtain separating the Holy of Holies from the outer court and ripping from top to bottom?
2. When did this event happen and what did it signify?
3. How do we know that God ripped the curtain and not man?
4. Who was Melchizedek and why is he significant? Explain
5. What does an anchor do and why do you think it is a good illustration for us to hang on to in tough times?

For starters, He was the king of a place called Salem (Jerusalem). Secondly, He was also a priest of the Most High God. His name means 'king of righteousness'. When He met Abraham after his defeat of Chedorlaomer and presented him with bread and wine. He also bestowed a blessing on Abraham in the name of El Elyon (God Most High) and received a tithe from him. What's interesting about that—is that in doing that, Levi, who came from Abraham was also paying a tithe to Melchizedek, thus signifying the superiority of that priestly line. What all of that means is that Jesus has the right to enter the Holy of Holies and carry out priestly work on our behalf because He is a priest after the order of Melchizedek.

Applying God's Word

What did you learn from this study and how does this personally speak to you? Discuss with your group.

Every year millions of Muslims make a pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina where the prophet Muhammad is buried. After his death, the Buddha's body was cremated, and the relics were placed in various monuments. You can visit the grave of Confucius in the Shandong Province of China. You can visit the gravesites of all these other founders of world religions. But when you go to Jerusalem and visit the traditional site just outside the city walls where they buried Jesus, all you'll find is an empty grave! As the angels said to the women that day, 'He is not here, for He is risen!'

1. Pastor Daniel spoke of the different religious figures such as Mohammed, Buddha and Confucius. What do they all have in common and how is Jesus different?
2. How does this knowledge of Jesus increase your faith?
3. How is our faith like an anchor to our soul? Explain.

PRAYER - Pray for one another as we face tough times together. Pray that your faith will truly be anchored in Jesus when the storms of life come our way.

Visitation/Restoration in 2021

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you." {1st Peter 1:3-4}